

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are presently pending in this case. The present Amendment amends Claims 1, 2, and 8-11; and adds Claims 13-20 without introducing any new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 3-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Moon (U.S. Patent No. 6,275,376); Claims 1 and 3-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Ossia (U.S. Patent No. 6,747,635); Claims 8-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Bergstedt (U.S. Patent No. 6,750,866); Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Moon in view of Barrus (U.S. Patent No. 7,002,604); and Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Ossia in view of Barrus.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the courtesy of Examiner Tran to interview this case with Applicant's representatives on April 4, 2007, during which time the issues in the outstanding Office Action were discussed as substantially summarized hereinafter and also on the Interview Summary. During the interview, the manner in which the planar display unit and the planar main unit are configured to rotate was discussed. Following from this discussion, Claims 1 and 8 are amended to recite, *inter alia* that "the planar display unit and the planar main unit are configured to rotate from the closed position to an open position around the rotating shaft and relative to each other such that the display and the planar main unit top face rotate in parallel planes." Also following from the interview, Claims 13-20 are added. In particular, new Claims 17-20 recite the location of the operating unit with respect to the rotating shaft, as suggested by Examiner Tran.

Claims 1 and 8 are amended. Support for these amendment can be found at least at page 8, line 21 to page 9, line 1 with reference to Figure 1, for example. Therefore, these amendments do not raise a question of new matter.

Claims 13-20 are added. Support for these new claims is found at least in the specification as originally filed.¹ Therefore, these amendments do not raise a question of new matter.

The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1 and 3-7 as anticipated by Moon.

Claim 1, as presently amended, recites, *inter alia*:

wherein the planar main unit and the planar display unit are interconnected by a connecting portion having a rotating shaft,
wherein the display and a planar main unit top face are parallel to each other in a closed position, and
wherein the planar display unit and the planar main unit are configured to rotate from the closed position to an open position around the rotating shaft and relative to each other such that the display and the planar main unit top face *rotate in parallel planes*.

Turning to the applied reference, Moon describes a portable computer that includes a tilt/swivel hinge assembly. As illustrated in Figures 1A-1D and described at col. 5, line 61 to col. 6, line 16, a computer display cover 40 rotates about two axes 21 and 23 relative to the base 20. In a closed position of the cover 40, a first axis 23 runs parallel to a rear or bottom edge 29 of the display cover 40. A second axis 21 passes directly through the center of the tilt/swivel hinge 25 and is oriented perpendicularly to the tilt axis or first axis 23. From a closed position, the cover 40 lifts open, or tilts, about the first axis 23 to expose the keyboard 26 and the display screen 50. The display cover swivels about a second axis 21 at any tilt position greater than that necessary for the bottom edge 29 of the display cover 40 to clear the rear steps 24a and 24b.

¹ See, the specification as originally filed at, for example, page 8, line 21 to page 9, line 1 and page 12, line 25 to page 13, line 2 with reference to Figure 1 for new Claim 13; page 12, line 10 to page 13, line 11 for new Claims 14-16; and page 10, lines 10-20 for new Claims 17-20.

However, Moon fails to describe a planar display unit and a planar main unit that are configured to rotate from a closed position to an open position around a rotating shaft and relative to each other such that a display and a planar main unit top face *rotate in parallel planes*. Moon describes that the cover 40 tilts about the first axis via the first shaft portions 64a and 64b depicted in Figure 4A,² and swivels about the rotation shaft 680 depicted in Figure 4B.³ Although the display screen 50 appears to face the panel 22 in a closed position, as can be seen in Figures 1A to 1D, the display screen 50 and panel 22 do not rotate *in parallel planes* from a closed position to an open position around the first shaft portions 64a and 64b or the rotation shaft 680. To the contrary, other than when the screen 50 appears to face the panel 22 in a closed position, these two elements are always in non-parallel planes as illustrated in Figures 1A to 1D. Accordingly, as Moon does not disclose the features of amended independent Claim 1, it is submitted that amended independent Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1 and 3-7 as anticipated by Ossia.

Ossia is directed to a portable handheld computer. As illustrated in Figure 1 and as described at col. 5, lines 1-6, the portable handheld computer 10 includes an elongated rectangular base unit 11, a touchpad section 13 shown in its extended position, and a display section 16 shown in its open position. Base unit 11 has a front side wall 22, a rear side wall 23, a left side wall 24, a right side wall 25, a top end wall 26, and a bottom end wall 27. The base unit further includes programmable pushbuttons 12 mounted on its right and left sides, a removable storage media interface 28, and means for wired and wireless communication.

However, Ossia fails to describe a planar display unit and a planar main unit that are configured to rotate from a closed position to an open position around a rotating shaft and

² See Moon, at col. 7, lines 30-42.

³ See Moon, at col. 8, lines 8-25.

relative to each other such that a display and a planar main unit top face *rotate in parallel planes*. Although the screen 17 faces a wall of the base unit 11 in a closed position, as can be seen in Figure 6, the display screen 17 and wall do not rotate from a closed position to an open position around a rotating shaft *in parallel planes*. To the contrary, Figure 6 depicts the display screen 17 rotating from a closed position to an open position through a range of planes that are *oblique to* the walls of the base unit 11. Thus, Ossia fails to describe every feature of Claim 1 as presently amended. Accordingly, as Ossia does not disclose the features of amended independent Claim 1, it is submitted that amended independent Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 8-12 as anticipated by Bergstedt.

Claim 8 as presently amended recites, *inter alia*:

wherein the displaying includes displaying the information on a display of a planar display unit that is interconnected to a planar main unit by a connecting portion having a rotating shaft, the display and a planar main unit top face are parallel to each other in a closed position, and the planar display unit and the planar main unit are configured to rotate from the closed position to an open position around the rotating shaft and relative to each other such that the display and the planar main unit top face *rotate in parallel planes*.

Turning to the applied art, Bergstedt is directed to a method for displaying information on a display area of a screen of an electronic device. Bergstedt describes a five steps that include (1) displaying information on a display area of a monitor, (2) a user interacting with an interface device, (3) displaying a subsequent page in a display area in response to a signal, (4) displaying a visual cue, and (5) a user decision step in which the user determines whether more information should be displayed.⁴

⁴ See Bergstedt, at col. 3, lines 23-58.

However, none of these steps include displaying information on a display of a planar display unit that is interconnected to a planar main unit by a connecting portion having a rotating shaft; or that the planar display unit and the planar main unit are configured to rotate from the closed position to an open position around the rotating shaft and relative to each other such that the display and the planar main unit top face *rotate in parallel planes*.

Although Bergstedt states that it relates generally to “the manner in which information is displayed on a display area of a screen of an electronic device such as, but not limited to, a desktop or laptop computer, a handheld computer such as a PDA, a television display such as an electronic program guide, or a mobile telephone having a processor and memory,”⁵

Bergstedt does not disclose or suggest displaying information on the claimed planar display unit interconnected in the claimed manner to a planar main unit. Accordingly, as Bergstedt does not disclose or suggest the features of amended independent Claim 8, it is submitted that amended independent Claim 8 and the claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1-7 as unpatentable over Moon in view of Barrus, Barrus fails to cure the deficiencies in Moon discussed above. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection based on the combination of Moon and Barrus be withdrawn.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1-7 as unpatentable over Ossia in view of Barrus, Barrus fails to cure the deficiencies in Ossia discussed above. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection based on the combination of Moon and Ossia be withdrawn.

New Claims 13-20 recite subject matter that also defines over the cited references.

⁵ See Bergstedt, at col. 2, lines 40-45.

New dependent Claim 13 patentably defines over the cited art for at least the same reasons as independent Claim 1, from which it depends, and for its own features, particularly in combination with amended independent Claim 1. Accordingly, new dependent Claim 13 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

New Claim 14 recites, *inter alia*:

wherein the planar main unit and the planar display unit are interconnected by a connecting portion having a rotating shaft, and a display format of the content is changed in accordance with an angle of rotation of the display unit *relative to the main unit*.

None of the cited references teach or suggest this feature. For example, Barrus describes a handheld electronic device 10 that includes a device housing 20 and a display screen 30.⁶ The device 10 is operated by mechanical buttons or function keys 40 located on the device housing 20.⁷ Figure 7 illustrates four different viewing modes that can be selected by a user of the device. Specifically, a user or application selects an *alternative viewing mode* 82, 84, 86 and rotates the device in the mode selected.⁸ However, the display screen 30 does not rotate *relative to* the device housing 20 and Barrus fails to describe that the display screen 30 is interconnected to a main unit by a connecting portion having a rotating shaft. Thus, although Barrus describes that an alternative viewing mode can be selected, the view mode is not changed in accordance with an angle of rotation of the display screen 30 *relative to the main unit*. None of Bergstedt, Moon, or Ossia cure the deficiencies found in Barrus. Accordingly, as the cited art does not disclose or suggest the features of new independent Claim 14, it is submitted that new independent Claim 14 and the claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

⁶ See Barrus, at col. 2, lines 49-50.

⁷ See Barrus, at col. 2, lines 51-53.

⁸ See Barrus, at col. 5, lines 27-30.

New Claim 17 recites, *inter alia*:

wherein the planar main unit and the planar display unit are interconnected by a connecting portion having a rotating shaft, and the operation unit *is centered on the rotating shaft*.

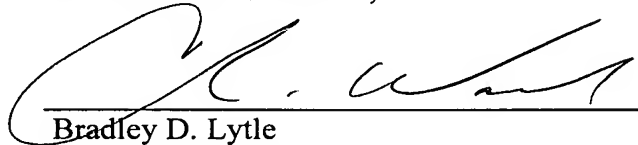
None of the cited references teach or suggest this feature. As discussed above, Moon describes a computer display cover that 40 rotates about two axes 21 and 23 relative to a base 20, and Ossia describes a display section 16 that rotates relative to a rectangular base unit 11. However, neither Moon nor Ossia describe an operation unit *centered on* a rotating shaft. The outstanding Office Action asserts that Figure 2 of Moon illustrates that the keyboard panel is disposed on the tilt/swivel hinge mechanism of assembly, and that Figures 1 and 2 of Moon illustrate a keyboard disposed on a connecting portion. However, neither of these keyboards are *centered on a rotating shaft* of a connecting portion. Neither Barrus nor Bergstedt cure the deficiencies found in Moon and Ossia. Accordingly, as the cited art does not disclose or suggest the features of new independent Claim 17, it is submitted that new independent Claim 17 and the claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-20 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Christopher D. Ward
Registration No. 41,367